THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b) Since May, 1992 following two projects *viz.*

(i) Expansion of Mining facilities at Kudremukh by Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Ltd. and
(ii) Construction of Second Stage Fishing Landing Facilities at Malpe Fishing Harbour

are pending with the Government. There is no information with the Government to state that industrial growth in Karnataka has been affected due to non-grant of clearance to the above projects from environmental angle.

Air, Water and Noise Pollution

250. SHRI JAGMOHAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that major metropolitan cities of the corunty are the most polluted human settlements in the world;

(b) whether Government have identified the sources of pollution and also assessed the extent of pollution as a result thereof; and

(c) what remedial measures are being taken by Government to bring down the level of air, water and noise pollution in these cities?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Central Pollution Control Board has estimated that the major causes of pollution in metropolitan areas are vehicular pollution and domestic wastes.

(c) The steps taken to bring down the level of air, water and noise pollution in cities are as follows:

(i) Effluent, emission and ambient noise standards have been prescribed under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986;
(ii) Environment guidelines have been evolved for sitting and operation of industries.
(iii) Industries have been asked to comply with consent requirement of the State Pollution Control Board to limit the discharge of effluents and emissions within the stipulated standards;
(iv) The Central Government, in consultation with the State Governments, have prepared an action plan to meet the effluent and emission standards for polluting industries;
(v) Fiscal incentives are being provided for installation of pollution control equipment and also for the shifting of polluting industries from congested areas;
(vi) Network of ambient air quality and ambient water quality monitoring stations have been set up.
(vii) A scheme has been initiated to give assistance to cluster of small scale industrial units for setting up common effluent treatment plants.

वन क्षेत्र में खनन पट्टों को स्वीकृति

251. **श्री शिवचरण सिंह:** क्या पर्यावरण और वन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) वन (संरक्षण) अधिनियम बनने के पश्चात् किन-किन राज्यों में वन क्षेत्र में खनन पट्टों को स्वीकृति प्रदान की गई है;

(ख) क्या खनन पट्टों को स्वीकृति प्रदान करने के लिए केन्द्रीय वन विभाग द्वारा "अनापत्ति प्रमाणपत्र" जारी किए हैं;

(ग) क्या यह सच है कि उच्चतम न्यायालय ने भी इस अधिनियम का पालन किए जाने का पक्ष लिया है;

(घ) क्या यह सच है कि वनों में अनधिकृत खनन वन विभाग ही कराता है; और इसका ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ङ) क्या सरकार पर्यावरण-संरक्षण के लिए देश के वनों की कटाई पर तत्काल प्रतिबंध लगाने का विचार रखती है?

मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री (श्री अर्जुन सिंह): (क) आन्ध्र प्रदेश, बिहार, गुजरात, हिमाचल प्रदेश, कर्नाटक, मध्य प्रदेश, महाराष्ट्र, उड़ीसा, तमिलनाडु, उत्तर प्रदेश तथा अंडमान और निकोबार द्वीप समूह में वन (संरक्षण) अधिनियम, 1980 के अन्तर्गत खनन के लिए वन भूमि के उपयोग की मंजूरी दी गई है।